The Service of Thanksgiving for All Souls



St Barnabas Anglican
Church

Welcome to this service. There is a particular poignancy, this year, as we gather to remember loved ones. For many months, we may have been unable to be with loved ones at the time of their death or to be present at their funerals. We pray that this opportunity to gather, remember and give thanks for them will be a blessing to you.

Please follow the directions of those welcoming you and the ministers, so we may keep everyone as safe as we possibly can.

If you would like to talk or pray with someone, please ask our minister, as you leave the service to arrange this, or contact us in the coming days.

The Gathering

The priest enters in silence and all may spend a short time in silent prayer.

Introit - Please remain seated

God be in my head, and in my thinking.

God be in my eyes, and in my looking.

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking.

Oh, God be in my heart, and in my understanding.

Music: John Rutter (b. 1945) Words: Sarum Primer, 1558 The Cambridge Singers

We meet today to remember those we have known and loved who have died, to renew our trust and confidence in Christ, and to pray that together we may be one in him, through whom we offer our praises to the Father.

As a father cares for his children: so the Lord cares for those who fear him.

For he himself knows whereof we are made: he remembers that we are but dust.

Our days are like the grass: we flourish like a flower of the field.

When the wind goes over it, it is gone, and its place shall know it no more.

But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever on those who fear him:

and his righteousness on children's children.

HYMN - 2 Abide with me

THE ACCLAMATION

Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls you uphold us in life and sustain us in death: to you be glory and praise for ever!

For the darkness of this age is passing away as Christ the bright and morning star brings to his saints the light of life.

As you give light to those in darkness who walk in the shadow of death so remember in your kingdom your faithful servants that death may be for them the gate to life and to unending fellowship with you; where with your saints you live and reign one in the perfect union of love now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING - Lamentations 3:22-26 & 31-33

PSALM - 121

HYMN - 474 Now thank we all our God

SECOND READING - Romans 8:31-39

AN ADDRESS

HYMN – 67 Be still for the presence of the Lord

THE PRAYERS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour: born of the house of his servant David.

In the tender compassion of our God: the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor human heart conceived, God has prepared for those who love him.

INTERCESSIONS

God of all consolation, in your unending love and mercy you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life.

Show compassion to your people in their sorrow. Be our refuge and our strength to lift us from the darkness of grief to the peace and light of your presence. Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, by dying for us, conquered death and by rising again, restored life.

May we then go forward eagerly to meet him, and after our life on earth be reunited with our brothers and sisters where every tear will be wiped away.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In confidence we pray to our Heavenly Father:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

THE COMMEMORATION

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power. For you have created all things, and by your will they have their being.

You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and nation.

You have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign with you on earth.

The names of those to be remembered will be read aloud. They will be read in batches, as we finish each batch, relatives are encouraged to come forward and light a candle.

This is the will of him that sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, and I will raise them up at the last day.

Lord God, creator of all, you have made us creatures of this earth, but have also promised us a share in life eternal. According to your promises, may all who have died in the peace of Christ come with your saints to the joys of your kingdom, where there will be neither sorrow nor pain, but life everlasting.

Alleluia, Amen.

A time of silence and reflection

(During this time of quiet music will be played)



Grant to us, Lord God, to trust you not for ourselves alone, but for those also whom we love and who are hidden from us by the shadow of death; that, as we believe your power to have raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, so may we trust your love to give eternal life to all who believe in him; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN – 672 Thine been the Glory

THE BLESSING

May God give to you and to all those whom you love his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Refreshment will be available after the service